

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1680 without my signature.

This bill would change the basis of allocating per-pupil revenue limit funding from the current formula based on average daily attendance to one based on average monthly enrollment beginning with the 2007-08 fiscal year. This bill will significantly change the way the state funds schools, and I am concerned it could remove fiscal incentives currently in place for schools to maximize student attendance. If such a change were to negatively impact student attendance, it would also undermine student achievement because I believe they are better served through rigorous daily classroom instruction.

If the state were to make such a significant change in how it funds schools it should be done with careful research and review. My bi-partisan committee on education excellence is doing a thoughtful review of education funding issues. After those reports are completed, I look forward to working with education leaders on distilling the information and enacting changes that we believe will improve California's education system.

Given these concerns, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger